

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method ~~to increase the information bit rate~~ of providing sub-channels for transmitting information in a telecommunications network comprising several stations ~~for the transmission of data and speech~~, wherein the method ~~consists of the~~ comprises:

normally time-multiplexing of the a data information sub-channel into a first group of time slots and a speech information sub-channel into a second group of time slots sub-channels along with [[a]] providing at least one general services and synchronization sub-channel time slot to form a frame consisting of an alternation of data, speech and synchronization slots including the at least one designated general services and synchronization sub-channel time slot in a sequential arrangement with members from of the first and second groups.

2. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 1, wherein the further comprising:

~~synchronization sub-channel is used for tasks pertaining to the links providing a link~~  
between at least two stations of the ~~network~~. network using the general services and synchronization sub-channel; and  
using the link to perform tasks.

3. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 2, wherein the tasks  
~~comprise at least one of the following tasks:~~ include transmitting one of a request for priority  
transmission formulated by a [[unit,]] station, a warning reported by a [[unit,]] station, a

"flash" message, a request for ~~[[the]]~~ repetition of a message, commands sent out by ~~[[the]]~~ a master ~~[[unit,]]~~ station, ~~[[the]]~~ and information regarding reconfiguration of the network.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The method according to ~~one of the above claims,~~  
~~claim 1, wherein each data, speech and synchronization slot comprises~~ further comprising:  
providing a first part reserved for the synchronization with the synchronization signal  
sent by one of the stations of the network of the information in each sub-channel time slot as  
configured to provide synchronization information between stations of the network.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The method according to ~~one of the above claims,~~  
~~claim 1, further comprising:~~

~~wherein sending a synchronization signal is sent by~~ from ~~[[the]]~~ a master station of  
the network on the general services and synchronization sub-channel.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The method according to ~~one of the above claims~~  
~~wherein when one of the~~ claim 1, further comprising:  
transmitting information using a sub-channels, sub-channel ~~namely the data or the~~  
~~speech sub-channel, is not busy, wherein it is used for the transmission of the~~ for information  
that would normally be transmitted on ~~flowing in the other~~ another sub-channel.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The method according to ~~one of the above claims,~~  
~~claim 1, further comprising:~~

implementing an anti-collision procedure when there are several simultaneous or  
almost simultaneous requests for ~~[[the]]~~ use of ~~[[a]]~~ the data information or speech  
information sub-channel.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 7, wherein the anti-collision process ~~consists~~ comprises:

[[in]] assigning a random number to each requesting ~~unit~~, station;

the [[unit]] station with the lowest number obtaining [[the]] ~~a~~ right to ~~send~~ transmit ~~first~~, first; and

[[the]] other [[units]] stations obtaining [[the]] ~~a~~ right to ~~send~~ transmit in [[the]] an order corresponding to [[the]] ~~a~~ rising order of the random numbers that have been assigned to them.

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 7 ~~or 8~~, ~~wherein the anti-collision process is~~ further comprising:

~~governed~~ governing the anti-collision process by a rotating rule of priority.

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~one of the claims 6 to 9~~, ~~wherein when a first~~ further comprising:

~~station makes~~ making simultaneous use of both the data information sub-channel and the speech information sub-channel ~~[[,]]~~ by a first station; and

the first station releasing a required sub-channel when another station requires [[the]] use of ~~one of the sub-channels~~, ~~the first station releases~~ the required sub-channel.